(b) whether it is a fact that this increase has adversly affected the newspaper industry ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) : (a) Government does not exercise any statutory control on the prices of newsprint. The mills have revised the prices of indigenous newsprint in May/June, 1989 reportedly on the ground of increasing cost of production and for maintaining their financial viability. The price of imported newsprint is fixed by the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee in which, among others, newspaper industry is adequately represented.

(b) The newspaper industry has been claiming that it is not in a position to compensate the higher costs as a result of the increase in the prices of the newsprint by increasing their subscription and advertisement rates.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

शहरी विकास बैंक की स्थापना

375. डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार नगर पालिकाओं और टाऊन एरिया समितियों को आवश्यक वित्तीय संसाधन मुहैया कराने के लिए शहरी विकास बैंक की स्थापना करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) : (क) और (ख) यह मामला सरकार के पास सक्रिय रूप से विचाराधीन है।

Shortage of pig iron

376. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of pig iron in the country, leading to closure of a number of foundries, particularly in the small-scale sector; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) : (a) No, Sir. There is an improvement in the availability of pig iron during the current financial year. No precise information is available about closure of foundries.

(b) Does not arise.

Funds for Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojna

377. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched the Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojana recently ;

(b) if so, what are the amounts released under the Yojana so far, State-wise ; and

(c) what is the mechanism deviced for spending this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement indicating the resources allocated and released to the States/UTs for implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) during the year 1989-90 is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Out of the allocation received by a district, 6% is earmarked for Indira Awas Yojana. Of the balance, not less than 80% funds are required to be distributed among village panchayats on population basis. Remaining funds are retained at the district level. Funds under the Yojana can be used to provide wage employment opportunities to the unskilled rural workers. In the process, economically and socially useful assets can be created for the welfare of the economically weaker sections in the rural areas.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	Funds released (Central) (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7125.12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	116.01
3.	Assam	2003.50
4.	Bihar	14277.13
5.	Goa	181.80
6.	Gujarat	3241.41
7.	Haryana	776.15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	553.69
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	755.52
10.	Karnataka	3625.95
11.	Kerala	2338.49
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7692.22
13.	Maharashtra	7632.00
14.	Manipur	201.72
15.	Meghalaya	168.96
16.	Mizoram	72.35
17.	Nagaland	186.24
18.	Orissa	3627.00
19.	Punjab	744.93
20.	Rajasthan	5383.93
21.	Sikkim	72.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	4971.27
23.	Tripura	195.22
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19979.25
25.	West Bengal	6958.33
26.	A&N Islands	96.05
27.	Chandigarh	24.46
28.	D&N Haveli	47.17
29.	Delhi	30.05
30.	Daman & Diu	77.57
31.	Lakshadweep	49.05
32.	Pondicherry	84.89
	ALL INDIA:	93290.39

दुर्गापुर इस्पात संयंत्र का आधुनिकीकरण

378. **श्री राम अवधेश सिंह** : क्या **इस्पात और खान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दुर्गापुर इस्पात संयंत्र के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए बिड़ला टैक्निकल सर्विसिज को 461 करोड़ रुपए का ठेका किस आधार पर दिया गया है ; और

(ख) क्या बिड़ला टैक्निकल सर्विसिज इतने बड़े तथा भारी काम को करने में सक्षम है ?